(b) if so, when it would start; and

(c) if not, how the Hindi teaching in non-Hindi speaking States, especially North-Eastern States which are financially weak, can continue Hindi teaching in that area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c) A Central Plan Scheme for the Appointment of Hindi Teachers in non-Hindi speaking States, including the North-Eastern States is being implemented since the Second Five Year Plan. Under this scheme financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for appointing Hindi Teachers. The budget for the scheme this year is Rs. 10.00 crores.

Utilisation of Grants by IIT Kharagpur

2029. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether intake capacity of the IIT Kharagpur was to be increased by 20 per cent every year, so that within five years from 1998 the Institute would have doubled its capacity;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of the specific purpose Plan grants of 13.80 crore received between 1995 and 1999, IIT Kharagpur did utilise only Rs. 6.95 crore ;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action is being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA) : (a) No such target as increase in intake by 20% every year within five years from 1998 was fixed for the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur. However, with a view to provide high quality technical education to as many students as possible, the Government

has been encouraging the IITs to increase intake by optimal utilization of their existing facilities within the budgetary resources. Accordingly, IIT, Kharagpur has increased its intake by 46% over the last four years.

(b) to (d) IIT Kharagpur received a grant of Rs. 11.80 crores between 1995 and 1999 and not Rs. 13.80 crores. Most of the grants were fully utilized within the time schedule. In a few cases, there was time overrun because of time required for processing of orders and executing of works for infrastructure development. The Institute has been advised to do advance planning for expeditious utilization of grants for avoiding time overruns in future.

Professional Approach to Education

2030. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that even half a century after Independence, education at primary, secondary and university levels has not achieved the desired objective of covering all school going children;

(b) if so, whether a study has been made to identify the bottlenecks, whether it is at management level or at the dispensation level in the institutions since management level so far has been with administrative class, rather than with educationists; and

(c) whether Government would adopt a professional approach in this regard as democratic functioning of the country is largely dependent on spread of education ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c) National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 and its Programme of Action (POA), 1992 contain a comprehensive framework to guide educational development in the country. Accordingly, several initiatives have been launched/or are on anvil to meet the challenges of access, quality and consolidation. These include District Primary Education Programme Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Operation Blackboard, Education Guarantee Scheme & Alternative and Innovative Education, Mid-day Meals